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CROP-WEATHER BULLETIN



In Cooperation with:
US Department of Commerce-NOAA
USDA Farm Service Agency
WV Cooperative Extension Service
WV Dept. of Agriculture

SOURCE: West Virginia Agricultural Statistics
RELEASED: September 25, 2006

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FOR WEEK OF: September 18 – September 24

GENERAL

Overall, weekly average temperatures were below normal as temperatures cooled a bit during the week. Following the passage of a strong cold front, overnight lows dipped into the 30s for seven reporting sites. Wet weather continued this week. Average rainfall was again well over an inch with five sites reporting over two inches of rain. Heavy thunderstorms swamped Huntington with over four inches. The eastern panhandle was again the dry spot with less than one quarter inch of rain.

Temperatures: Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 88 degrees. Bluefield had the lowest recorded temperature of 34 degrees.

Precipitation: Huntington had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 4.07 inches. Romney had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.06 of an inch.

Number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.0 days last week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
PERCENT				
Current				
Week	1	8	80	11
Last				
Week	--	16	69	15
Last				
Year	34	47	15	4

Farm activities included cutting hay, clipping pastures, fall calving, harvesting corn, and apples.

FRUIT

Apple conditions ranged from poor to excellent condition, but most orchards were reported in fair to mostly good condition. Apples were 36 percent harvested compared to 30 percent in 2005. The 5-yr average was not available.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
PERCENT					
Cattle & Calves	--	2	20	70	8
Sheep & Lambs	--	2	18	76	4
Apples	--	8	39	41	12
Corn	1	8	35	50	6
Hay	1	3	35	56	5
Soybeans	--	10	40	49	1
Pasture	--	6	35	54	5

GRAINS

Corn conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were in good condition. The crop was 80 percent in the dent stage, comparison data not available. Corn was 39 percent mature, compared to 69 percent in 2005. The 5-yr average was 49 percent. Corn was 7 percent harvested, compared to 12 percent in 2005 and 14 percent for the 5-yr average. Soybean conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most were in good condition. Soybeans were 61 percent dropping leaves compared to 78 percent in 2005. The 5-yr average was 75 percent. Soybeans were 1 percent harvested, compared to 2 percent in 2005, 5-yr average data was not available. Wheat was 8 percent planted, compared to 5 percent in 2005. The 5-yr average was 21 percent. Wheat was 3 percent emerged, comparison data not available.

HAY

Hay conditions ranged from very poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition. Third-cutting was 48 percent complete, compared to 62 percent complete in 2005. The 5-yr average was not available.

LIVESTOCK and PASTURE

Cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most herds were reported in good condition. Sheep conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most flocks were reported in good condition. Pasture conditions ranged from poor to excellent, but most fields were reported in good condition.

HISTORICAL CROP PROGRESS

YEAR	CORN			SOYBEANS		WHEAT		HAY	APPLES
	DENTED	MATURE	HARV.	DROP. LVS.	HARV.	PLANTED	EMERGED	3 rd CUT	HARVESTED
2006	80	39	7	61	1	8	3	48	36
2005	N/A	69	12	78	2	5	N/A	62	30
5 YR AVG	N/A	49	14	75	N/A	21	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A-Not Available.

West Virginia
Field
Office



Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending September 24, 2006

Temperature					Precipitation				
Station	High	Low	Average	Weekly Departure	Week's Total	Norm	Since April 1st 2006	Same Week Last Year	Season Normal
--NORTHWEST-----									
WHEELING	85	46	61		0.68		17.88	18.12	
PARKERSBURG	86	44	63	-3	1.43	0.70	23.10	19.62	22.56
CRESTON	84	39	61		1.79		30.74	20.09	
--NORTHCENTRAL-----									
MORGANTOWN	83	43	65		0.91		22.87	14.49	
CLARKSBURG	84	42	63	-1	1.00	0.71	23.90	20.33	23.77
BELINGTON	82	39	60		0.70		31.11	21.68	
WESTON	86	42	62		1.19		26.58	20.27	
--SOUTHWEST-----									
WILLIAMSON	88	45	64		2.42		32.08	25.98	
HUNTINGTON	86	43	64	-2	4.07	0.63	33.82	22.30	22.14
CHARLESTON	86	38	62	-4	2.28	0.78	24.88	22.07	23.47
RIPLEY	84	42	62		2.08		30.40	21.06	
--CENTRAL-----									
TERRA ALTA	77	43	58		0.86		25.59	21.58	
ELKINS	81	42	60	-1	0.84	0.87	26.43	20.28	25.24
MARLINTON	75	39	55		0.41		20.02	19.30	
BECKLEY	77	35	56	-3	1.29	0.74	27.16	21.98	21.77
--SOUTHERN-----									
PINEVILLE	82	44	61		1.79		24.96	21.63	
BLUEFIELD	81	34	62	-2	2.26	0.75	28.56	20.96	21.49
WHITE SUL SP	82	43	60		0.73		20.02	19.30	
FLAT TOP	77	35	56		1.29		27.16	21.31	
--NORTHEASTERN-----									
MARTINSBURG	82	41	64	-2	0.13	0.84	22.30	11.98	20.30
ROMNEY	83	40	63		0.06		21.73	11.88	
PETERSBURG	82	41	62		0.23		19.64	12.61	

State Average Temperature 61
State Average Precipitation 1.29

Source: Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service, Charleston, WV

INTERNET ACCESS: All National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reports are now available free of charge on the Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and select: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>.